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**The Keep**

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March

2013

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3-27-2013

# Daily Eastern News: March 27, 2013

Eastern Illinois University

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**KNOWING YOUR RIGHTS**  
Frank LoMonte, the director of the Student Press Law Center, will give a speech about the First Amendment.

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**ENDING THE SEASON**  
The Illini's tight, full court press led to Eastern's loss in Champaign Monday.

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“TELL THE TRUTH AND DON’T BE AFRAID”

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# THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Wednesday, March 27, 2013

VOL. 97 | ISSUE 125

FACULTY | CREATIVE ACTIVITY



JACOB SALMICH | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Professor James Sysko sits in front of his French army soldiers at his desk in Lumpkin Hall. Sysko said he has been collecting the figures for 11 or 12 years.



JACOB SALMICH | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS  
A French artillery soldier lays on Sysko's desk.



JACOB SALMICH | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS  
Hundreds of lead soldiers fill the shelves of Sysko's office.

## Assembling an army

Professor spends more than a decade mobilizing forces

By Bob Galuski  
Entertainment Editor

*Editor's Note: This is the second installment in a series focusing on Eastern faculty members and uncovering their unique hobbies.*

Some carry flags. Some ride horses. Some stand at attention, ready for battle, while some stand in the band, perfectly lined up.

Totalling 850, they are perfectly placed with care, surrounding the entire office. Their nationalities vary from French to Irish, their eras from Napoleonic to pre-Communist Russia.

They are the soldiers of James Sysko.

After first happening across an almost-complete set of soldiers at a garage sale more than 10 years ago, Sysko, a business professor, has accumulated more than 1,000 toy soldiers, most of which he keeps in his office.

He said the set that sparked his interest was a Marine Corps band, which was missing three of the pieces.

If the set were complete, it would be valued at \$3,000, whereas he only paid \$15, Sysko said.

“When I see something new or that has value, I’m going to want to make an investment,” he said.

Each of Sysko’s toy soldiers, or “the troops,” as he affectionately calls them, line every surface available in his office.

Sysko said his favorite troops in his office are the ceremonial troops, or the ones that are not ready for battle.

“Ideally, I’d like to see a time without war,” he said.

Every collectable is hand-painted, with immense detail going into some of the troops, whether it is the faces or the flags.

“You can see the extent of the artistry that went into each of these,” Sysko said, holding a red flag, spotted with tiny gold Russian letters, held by a pre-Communist Russian soldier.

The troops in Sysko’s office stand at 54 millimeters tall, and most of them are made from lead or plastic painted with lead-based paint.

Although he only has 850 of the troops in his office, Sysko said he has

500 more of the 54 millimeter-tall toys at his home.

In addition to the 1,350 soldiers, Sysko also has 4,000 HO (half zero) model soldiers at his house.

“The HO models are about 1/72nd of a millimeter,” Sysko said.

Each of these troops is also hand-painted, using a small brush and magnifying glasses.

He said the only conflict he has ever run into while collecting the soldiers is where they come from and how much he paid.

“These are made in China, and that’s a dilemma for me, ethically,” Sysko said. “How can I pay \$20 a soldier when some poor worker is being paid 50 cents for all this intricate detail?”

One of the easiest ways to find soldiers is online, although that method can be risky, Sysko said.

“It’s hit or miss,” Sysko said.

The reason it is risky is because Sysko said he would not know for certain if he would be able to obtain the troops he wanted when he wanted them.

SOLDIERS, page 5

ADMINISTRATION | FUNDING

## State to decrease appropriations

University to compensate for \$2 million

By Stephanie Markham  
Administration Editor

Although Gov. Pat Quinn has proposed a 5 percent decrease in state funds for Eastern, the university has ways of balancing its budget.

Quinn’s proposal to Congress on March 6 would give Eastern about \$42 million for Fiscal Year 2013, roughly \$2 million less than last year’s appropriated funds.

Bill Weber, the vice president for business affairs, said he thinks Eastern’s income rate for next year would stay level despite budget cuts and the university’s investment in new scholarships.

Weber said an increase in the income fund could be caused by an increase in the tuition rate, growing enrollment and the graduation of seniors who pay a lower rate.

The tuition rate for incoming students will increase 1.4 percent, or about \$4, from last year’s rate, which is the lowest increase since 1993.

Weber said the income fund increases regardless of raising tuition because of the Illinois Truth in Tuition

law, which requires the tuition rate to stay the same for four and a half years.

He said when the senior class graduates, there are more students paying higher rates in all classes.

“When you replace graduating seniors who are paying the 2009 rate with freshmen who are paying the new tuition rate, that also causes your income fund to go up,” he said.

Weber said the lowered budget is part of a larger trend of decreases since FY 02, when the appropriated funds totaled about \$55 million.

He said twelve years ago, that \$55 million from the state accounted for two-thirds of Eastern’s general revenue fund, which pays for things like academic programs and faculty salaries.

He said students now contribute to about three-fifths of the fund through tuition.

“My guess is we will see two-thirds the other way in a couple of years,” he said.

Other measures to balance out budget decreases include cutting the number of personnel by about 5 percent over the past three years, Weber said.

He said the personnel expenditures were reduced significantly by not replacing employees who left or retired.

BUDGET, page 5

DEMOGRAPHICS | EDUCATION

## Hispanics to increase on college campuses

By Stephanie Markham  
Administration Editor

The number of Hispanic students in higher education is projected to increase 42 percent by 2021, according to a report from the Department of Education.

Deanna Trujillo, the vice president of the Latin American Student Organization and a junior special education major, said that in urban minority communities, financial stability often comes before getting an education.

“Basically, that just goes to show you that more people in our culture are valuing higher education because it will increase the likelihood of their success when they’re older,” she said.

Trujillo said taking care of the family is often prioritized over education.

“The Hispanic culture has very strong family ties, and we have a sense of responsibility to take care of our families,” she said. “So if that means you have to hold off on school and work, that’s what you’re going to do.”

She said leaving for college was a

struggle because her father, a traditional Hispanic male, had a hard time letting his daughter leave the family at such a young age.

“From the generation he came from and coming from Mexico, that wasn’t the norm for women to leave their families for college and live on their own,” she said.

Anastasia Lindsey, president of LASO and a sophomore management information systems major, said she also found it difficult to leave her family to get an education.

“I always wanted to go to college, but at the same time I thought it would be better to just stay home and work and help my mom out, and that’s what most of us do. We just work and help our families,” she said. “So it’s kind of hard for us to go to college and fulfill our dreams when you have responsibilities with the family.”


Hispanics were historically suppressed to do labor work, especially before the Chicano Civil Rights Movement in the 1960s, Trujillo said.

DEMOGRAPHICS, page 5




Local weather

TODAY



Partly Cloudy  
High: 43°  
Low: 27°

THURSDAY



Mostly Sunny  
High: 48°  
Low: 35°

For more weather visit [castle.eiu.edu/weather](http://castle.eiu.edu/weather).

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

"Tell the truth and don't be afraid."

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The Daily Eastern News is produced by the students of Eastern Illinois University. It is published daily Monday through Friday, in Charleston, Ill., during fall and spring semesters and twice weekly during the summer term except during university vacations or examinations. One copy per day is free to students and faculty. Additional copies can be obtained for 50 cents each in the Student Publications Office in Buzzard Hall. The Daily Eastern News is a subscriber to McClatchy-Tribune Information Services.

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Taking a bow



DOMINIC BAIMA | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Maestro Misha Rachlevsky acknowledges the audience's applause during the Chamber Orchestra Kremlin performance in the Dvorak Concert Hall of the Dounda Fine Arts Center Tuesday. Eastern is the last stop on a nine-day tour of North America for the orchestra.

CHARLESTON | VOTING

Community projects low election turnout

Students could be crucial factor in electoral race

By Amanda Wilkinson  
City Editor

Voter turnout is expected to be low for the April 9 mayoral and city council elections, but hopes are high for student-registered voters.

Jarrold Scherle, the executive vice president of Student Senate, said in an email that Student Senate registered 1,305 students for the 2011 presidential primary election and the 2012 presidential election.

Sue Rennels, the Coles County clerk and recorder, said there are two voting precincts on Eastern's campus, which are both in the Bridge Lounge of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

She said in the last consolidated election in 2009, 17 people voted in those two precincts.

"There's approximately, at that time, 1,900 registered voters in those two precincts, and 17 of them voted," Rennels said. "That's 2 percent of voter turnout."

She said consolidated elections have been known to have the least amount of voters.

In 2009, there were more than 33,000 registered voters in Coles County and of those, about 6,500 voted.

Rennels said there might be a higher voter turnout to this election because both the mayoral seat and the two city council seats are contested.

Andrew McNitt, a political science professor, said because of the low voter turnout, the election depends on "friends and neighbors."

"It's very much community-based politics here," he said.

Richard Wandling, the political science department chair and professor, said those who do turn out for the election are usually those who know exactly who they want to vote for.

"The people that turn out tend to be people who are much more actively engaged in the electoral process and end up being more knowledgeable and a much more focused, concentrated local electorate showing up," he said.

McNitt said although very few students vote in the municipal elections, what the city council votes on has an affect on students.

"Students tend to regard their stay here as temporary," he said.

McNitt said of the three mayoral candidates, Brian Myerscough, Larry Rennels and Troy Richey, he believes Rennels will win the mayoral seat.

He said he thinks Rennels is more likely to win because he is well-known throughout the community as a fair businessman, has been on the city council for so long and many people in the community like him.

He said it is harder to tell which of the four candidates will win the two city council seats.

Matthew Hutti, Tim Newell, Brandon Combs and Michael Stopka are the four candidates running for city council.

"It's hard for me to tell who has the strongest position," McNitt said.

Wandling said having a current Eastern graduate student run for city council could spark student turnout at the voting polls.

"So that is the unknown factor," he said. "The good question is how effective could a student city council candidate be in mobilizing the student vote?"

Amanda Wilkinson can be reached at 581-2812 or [akwilkinson@eiu.edu](mailto:akwilkinson@eiu.edu).

Residents share views on candidates

By Amanda Wilkinson  
City Editor

With the mayoral and city council elections less than two weeks away, few residents know who they want to vote for.

The candidates for the mayoral seat are Larry Rennels, Troy Richey and Brian Myerscough.

The city council candidates competing for two opens seats are Michael Stopka, Tim Newell, Brandon Combs and Matthew Hutti.

Dan Sebright, a Charleston resident, said he likes Myerscough because of the issues he is running on.

He said he thinks it would be a good idea to reduce the bar entry age to 19.

However, Sebright said he will not be able to vote in the city election because while he owns rental property in Charleston, he does not live within city limits.

Emma Hackler, a Charleston resident, said she also could not vote in the city election because she lives just outside the city.

She said this is not going to stop her from telling others to vote for the candidate she likes. Hackler said she favors Larry Rennels to win the mayoral election.

"He is a wonderful man and

will make things better for the city," she said.

Max Adams, a Charleston resident, said while he does not know the candidates running for mayor, he does not like who is in office now.

He said he wants to have a mayor who is interested in improving all of Charleston, not just the Square.

Adams said Charleston needs a mayor who will promote all the businesses throughout Charleston.

Lucille Pierce, a Charleston resident, said she knows who she will vote for in the city election.

However, she declined to say who she is planning to vote for because she said she might change her mind before election day.

Pierce said she is not for reducing the bar entry age to 19.

Out of about 40 people who were approached to give their opinion on the candidates and issues, only four people had an opinion to give.

Many of the people approached declined to comment, lived outside city limits or did not know who the candidates were.

Amanda Wilkinson can be reached at 581-2812 or [akwilkinson@eiu.edu](mailto:akwilkinson@eiu.edu).

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# Feasting for feedback



KEVIN HALL | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Giovanni Swyer, a sophomore economics major, shares a laugh with President Bill Perry before posing for a photo with him at the “Pizza with the Prez” lunch in Taylor Hall’s lobby Tuesday. “Pizza with the Prez” is an event that gives an opportunity for students to meet with President Perry and discuss issues on campus while eating pizza.

## STUDENT GOVERNANCE

# Board to approve campus budgets

## Staff Report

The Apportionment Board members will be voting on the four budgets funded by student fees at their meeting Thursday.

The Apportionment Board will meet at 7 p.m. in the Arcola-Tuscola Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Jenna Mitchell, the student vice president for student affairs, said members can comment and ask final questions about the budgets before they vote to approve them or not.

“None of the members have had anything to discuss after the presentations so it is really whatever the voting member comes back with that they have questions on,” Mitchell said.

The budgets are for Apportionment Board, student government, the Student Recreation Center and the University Board.

The UB requested a budget of \$200,091, a \$16,398-decrease from the Fiscal Year 2013 budget.

Campus recreation proposed a budget of \$211,000.

Student government proposed a budget of \$43,735 for FY 14, a \$3,396-decrease from FY 13.

The Apportionment Board increased its budget proposal by \$350 to \$25,730.

After the Apportionment Board approves the budgets, they go to the Student Senate for approval, Mitchell said.

This is the last meeting for Apportionment Board, unless the members request changes to a budget.

If a change is requested, the Apportionment Board will vote on it at another meeting, and the budgets will go to the Student Senate as emergency legislation.

Mitchell said emergency legislation is when the Student Senate members are introduced to the legislation, they discuss it and vote on it at one meeting.

## CAMPUS | BOOTH LIBRARY

# Researchers to present the blues

By Clarissa Wilson  
Staff Reporter

The blues, a musical genre that expands throughout the history of America, has given undergraduate and graduate students an opportunity to present their research studies through the America’s Music program.

Researchers will be presenting their work at 4:30 p.m. Thursday in Booth Library.

Each presentation shown during the “EIU Undergraduate Research in the Blues” will be 10 to 15 minutes long, and a panel will demonstrate approaches to the study of the blues.

The idea to include “EIU Undergraduate Research in the Blues” sparked when a professor found out the research his students were doing would fit with the series.

Michael Loudon, an English pro-

fessor, teaches the course “African-American Literature-Bluesology: The Blues and its Literary Legacy.”

Through this course, the importance of discussion about the origins, literature and the messages behind the blues cultivated a portion of research that was optional for students to do, Loudon said.

Some of the readings consist of Ralph Ellison’s “Invisible Man,” which concerns some of the social and intellectual issues that African-Americans faced through the earlier years.

Other materials from the text, videos and music also helped to bring about the independent research being showcased, he added.

Andrea Yarbrough, one of the researchers, said she wrote her final paper on Amiri Baraka in Loudon’s course.

After doing a critical analysis of

Baraka’s work, Yarbrough, an English and Africana Studies major, said she was asked by Loudon to present her reflection in the showcase.

Bringing some different insight from two years ago — when she first took the course — she said she did not have a real sense of the blues or the people in it.

“It was challenging to really construct the essay and really dig into but it was interesting because it brought a lot of things to the African-American community that you probably didn’t know existed in blues or jazz music,” Yarbrough said.

Chris Robison, a musician and graduate student in the English department, was also asked by Loudon to present some of his research.

Robison, who is pursuing his Master of Arts in English, said he worked on a research paper about Langston

Hughes when Loudon also told him that he would fit in America’s Music research presentations.

Robison described his work as “the female voice singing of heartache in the blues.”

Robison said writing the paper allowed him to explore the depths of the blues and its lyrics, gaining a deeper appreciation for the two.

“I hope to demonstrate that there is indeed poetry to the blues,” Robison said. “Langston Hughes understood that there is much more to the blues than just singing about how ‘some woman/man done me wrong.’”

The blues tells the story of how the human condition can be both fragile and tough.”

Clarissa Wilson can be reached at 581-2812 or [cjwilson2@eiu.edu](mailto:cjwilson2@eiu.edu)

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## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Support for athletics appreciated

Far too often we fail to say thank you. Please accept this letter as a note of thanks for all your support of Panther Athletics.

To all the students, faculty and staff who have attended our athletic events, we want to offer our sincere appreciation! In particular, I want to mention the great turnout we had at a recent women's basketball game. Our women had the opportunity to compete in the second round of the WNIT hosted by the University of Illinois. How special it was to see all the Panther Blue supporting our Panthers!

Thank you so much for making the effort to travel to Champaign in weather that was not ideal. Your presence means so much to our student athletes and coaches.

I also want to thank the Office of Student Programs, Minority Affairs Office and the Admissions Office for their support of the fan/student bus.

In addition, thanks to our Spirit Squads (band, cheerleaders, Pink Panthers) for their continued support and hard work they put in on behalf of our university!

We are now ramping up for home tennis matches, outdoor track and field, softball and baseball. I hope you will take advantage of the anticipated nice weather and enjoy some of the upcoming activities!

Again, thank you for your outstanding support!!

Barbara Burke,  
Director of Intercollegiate Athletics

**Letters to the editor** can be submitted at any time on any topic to the Opinions Editor to be published in *The Daily Eastern News*.

The DEN's policy is to run all letters that are not libelous or potentially harmful. They must be less than 250 words.

Letters to the editor can be brought in with identification to *The DEN* or to the DENopinions@gmail.com.

## “LET’S GIVE THEM SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT”

### What traits do you value in our future student body president?

*To submit your opinion on today's topic, bring it in with identification to The DEN at 1811 Buzzard Hall or submit it electronically from the author's EIU email address to DENopinions@gmail.com by 4 p.m. today or reply to us on social media.*

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## DRAWN FROM THE EASEL



DOMINIC RENZETTI | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

## STAFF EDITORIAL

# Senate candidates should carry out campaign goals

With Student Senate elections approaching, the time has come for the Eastern community to make a choice about who will represent them over the next school year.

The position holders have a duty to not only the Eastern community, but to the Charleston community as well.

They represent the voice of the student population and address important issues that emerge on campus.

The two candidates who are running for student body president have different goals if elected, including working closely with administration, addressing changes in culture and the economic hardships of students.

All of these goals, regardless of who is elected to the position, should be important to members of the Eastern community.

Developing a better, working relationship with the administration can help issues both on campus and off campus get resolved quicker and more effectively.

Addressing changes in the culture at Eastern is also extremely relevant to an ever-expanding diverse student population, and reaching out to all different types of students can expand the student population's understanding of different cultures.

In light of the economic troubles both the university and its student population has been having over the past few years, the student body president should help bring a voice to students who are struggling financially and work to help

#### OUR POSITION

- Situation:** Candidates are running for executive positions in the Student Senate elections.
- Stance:** Candidate's ideas sound good, but goals must be carried out.

them in any way possible.

The executive vice president candidate has said he will work to make Eastern a place where students really feel welcome, along with opening Lobbying Day to all Eastern students.

This would give students the opportunity to lobby for the university and give students an even bigger voice, something that would be a great addition to the campus community.

The student vice president for student affairs candidates have goals such as increasing visibility of registered student organizations and connecting them with the Student Organization Cabinet.

Goals such as these can bring RSOs together and enable them to work together to serve the Eastern community in the best way possible.

The two student vice president for academic affairs candidates seek to help the campus academically, including connecting students with new courses through the Council on Academic Affairs and the Faculty Senate and helping students succeed academically in any way possible.

These candidates have great ideas for their positions, and, if elected, we hope they represent us well in all the ways they have said they will and work to shed light on the troubles Eastern faces.

The daily editorial is the majority opinion of the editorial board of *The Daily Eastern News*.

# Marriage equality coming soon

This may sound crazy, but I heard the word “queer” used as a slur a few days ago. Most of us are more familiar with the politically correct reappropriation of this term, sometimes used to describe people who don't identify within the two or three limited terms we use to define sexuality. Yet there are still minds that this new forward-thinking reclamation has not reached, and to those minds (like that I encountered) I have only one thing to say: get used to it, because we're not going anywhere.

It's not always easy to be progressive in this country. Certainly less so when you live in the Bible Belt, which appears to tighten significantly when questions more complex than “what would Jesus do?” arise. Sometimes it helps to recast the conversation in conservative terms, like the time I related an unborn fetus to an undocumented citizen, and helped a bigot understand my right to choice.

Granted it was a very incomplete victory for human rights, but it's a start. Hopefully someday we can all live without the oppressive presence of warped religious beliefs we don't share, but for now, justice is about to win big for the gay com-



Mia Tapella

munity. When it comes to LGBT rights and marriage equality, the conversation is over.

The Supreme Court will hear arguments on these issues early in the week, and since anyone with a basic understanding of the constitution can see that Proposition 8 and DOMA are unconstitutional, I'm optimistic. In a recent poll, over half of Americans came out in support of marriage equality. For people under thirty, support ranks over 80 percent. These numbers represent a huge shift in public opinion over the last ten years, and the results are visible. Major church groups are beginning to change their views; the Mormon organization website now claims that homosexuality is not a choice, so anti-gay hate

groups will now have to find a new checkbook. In New Jersey, a proposed ban on “gay conversion” camps (proven to be both ineffective and extremely harmful) is gaining tremendous support after a similar bill passed in California last September. Rob Portman, a Republican senator from Ohio, recently came out in favor of gay rights after his son bravely came out to him. Professional athletes, overcoming a long tradition of intolerance, have become strong advocates for LGBT rights. Even Karl Rove (patently evil GOP string-puller) has allowed that anyone hoping to be president in 2016 should probably change his/her tune on marriage equality. Did you happen to catch that recent Kindle commercial featuring a same-sex couple? This is happening.

We're here, we're queer, and it's high time conservative lawmakers started taking notice. Marriage equality is coming to the United States, and soon. Deal with it.

*Mia Tapella is a senior English and political science major. She can be reached at 581-2812 or denopinions@gmail.com*







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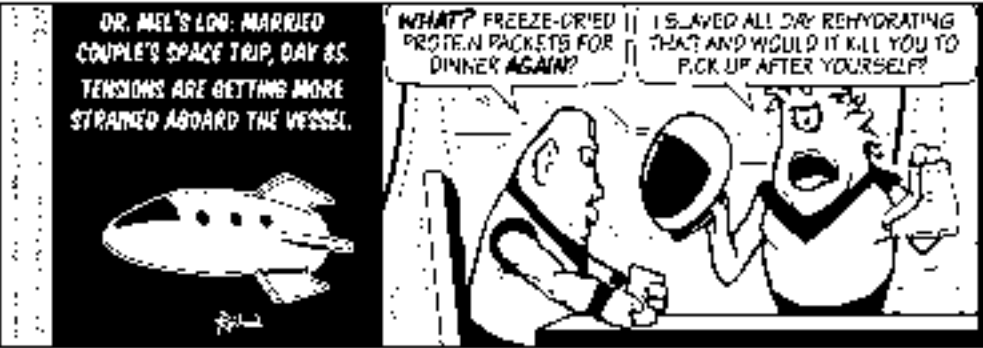
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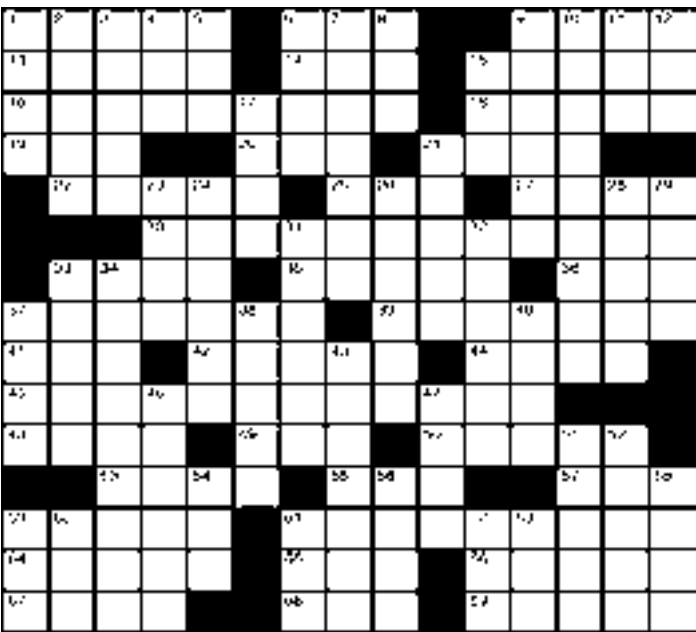
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3/29

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

- ACROSS
- 1 '60s activist Bobby
  - 6 Forward sail
  - 9 Flavonoids-rich berry
  - 13 \*Shady spot
  - 14 Mesabi Range output
  - 15 Not for minors
  - 16 \*Furry forecaster?
  - 18 Chain with a red cowboy hat logo
  - 19 Some spring rolls?
  - 20 Former "Today" co-anchor Curry
  - 21 Plant sold in animal-shaped pots
  - 22 Gave away, as true feelings
  - 25 One \_\_\_ time
  - 27 \*Jolly Roger, e.g.
  - 30 \*Formal beginning
  - 33 Lip balm stuff
  - 35 Subleased
  - 36 \_\_\_-ray Disc
  - 37 Gives substance to, with "out"
  - 39 Decks out
  - 41 L.A.'s \_\_\_ Center: second-tallest building in California
  - 42 Salsa ingredient
  - 44 Hard-to-hit server
  - 45 \*Freedom from control
  - 48 \*Leave the ground
  - 49 Stoplight color
  - 50 "Done!"
  - 53 Vagrant
  - 55 PSAT takers
  - 57 Acct. accrual
  - 59 Summers in China?
  - 61 Big name in publishing, and a visual hint to the three adjacent pairs of answers to starred clues
  - 64 "My Little Grass Shack" singer
  - 65 Die down
  - 66 Hoover rival
  - 67 A&W rival
  - 68 Versatile Scrabble tile
  - 69 Small bite



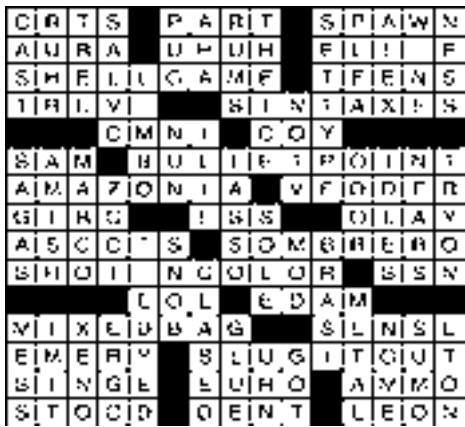
By C.C. Burnikel

3/27/13

DOWN

- 1 Loses muscle tone
- 2 Dashing Flynn
- 3 Dwelling
- 4 Reed of The Velvet Underground
- 5 Compass point ending
- 6 Poet Keats
- 7 Historic toolmaking period
- 8 Importune
- 9 Lacking purpose
- 10 Tropical rum drink
- 11 Prince \_\_\_ Khan
- 12 "\_\_\_ in the bag!"
- 15 "That hits the spot!"
- 17 "Body of Proof" actress Delany
- 21 Insertion symbol
- 23 Cancun uncles
- 24 Like many an easy grounder
- 26 New Orleans school
- 28 IM user
- 29 Safari sights

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved



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3/27/13

- 31 Like grizzlies
- 32 Tack on
- 33 Sock
- 34 Pitch in
- 37 Flunk out
- 38 Año beginner
- 40 Slurpee cousin
- 43 PennySaver ad subjects
- 46 Big times
- 47 Black-box analyzers: Abbr.
- 51 Takes for a spin
- 52 Pass
- 54 Theater program item
- 56 Chafes
- 58 Little one
- 59 Tack on
- 60 Accessorizing wrap
- 61 Below-average grade
- 62 Parking place
- 63 Stat for R.A. Dickey



HOCKEY | UPCOMING SEASON

Club team releases schedule

By Dominic Renzetti  
Opinions Editor

The Eastern hockey club has released its schedule for the upcoming 2013-14 season.

The Panthers open the season on Sept. 13 and 14 against Bradley at the David S. Palmer Arena in Danville.

Game times for the season have yet to be announced.

The following week, the Panthers will have a series against rival University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

This will split the series with the first game on Sept. 20 in Danville and the second game on Sept. 21 in Champaign at the University of Illinois Ice Area.

Also on the schedule this season is a number of familiar faces, including Southern Illinois-Edwardsville, Missouri, Iowa, Northern Illinois, Louisville, Eastern Kentucky, Loyola, Illinois State, Robert Mor-

ris, Missouri State and St. Louis.

“The schedule for this next up coming 2013-14 season is very similar to last season’s,” senior forward Chris Gallagher said. “This season we will face some challenges filling the roles of the seniors and captains that have graduated, but with our teams passion and love for the game of hockey we will not have a problem finding leaders.”

Two new additions to the schedule will be Lewis University and the University of Arkansas.

The Panthers will travel to Romeoville to take on Lewis on Dec. 13 and 14, and will travel to Arkansas on Jan. 24 and 25.

“Lewis was at the MACHA league meeting and we scheduled the two games with them there,” Gallagher said. “Arkansas actually contacted us and asked if we would be interested in playing them. The team is very excited to get the opportunity to take a bus trip down to

Arkansas and show them what EIU hockey is all about.”

With a number of the team’s seniors graduating, the team will be hosting tryouts during the second week of the fall semester, Gallagher said.

“Our coaches have been doing some very heavy recruiting in the off season and we have already had about 10 incoming freshmen reach out to us about playing this season,” he said.

The Panthers finished the 2012-13 season with a record of 9-15-3, tying for sixth place in the Mid-American Collegiate Hockey Association Gold Division.

Senior Mike Sorrentino led the team with 44 points despite missing a number of games at the end of the season with a torn MCL.

Dominic Renzetti can be reached at 581-2812 or denopinions@gmail.com

SOFTBALL | WEATHER

Snowstorm delays Butler doubleheader

By Jack Sheehan  
Staff Reporter

The Eastern softball team had its road doubleheader scheduled for Wednesday against the Butler Bulldogs postponed due to the snowstorm that swept across the Midwest this past weekend.

After their road series last weekend, when the Panthers came back to Charleston with a 3-1 record against Morehead State and Eastern Kentucky, Eastern looked to build upon its recent winning ways.

The unusually large spring snowfall has the games postponed to a later date that is still to be determined.

The weather has caused the Panthers to alter their schedule a number of times this season, with the game on March 20 against Indiana State still

postponed to a later date that is to be determined.

Eastern will now prepare for its three-game weekend series against Ohio Valley Confernece west division foe Murray State, starting on Friday.

The Racers come into the series currently one game behind the Panthers in the OVC west division with a record of 5-1 in the conference and 11-14 overall.

Meanwhile, Eastern stands at 6-1 in the OVC west and 16-9 overall, winning nine of their last ten games.

The Panthers take on the Racers in a 4 p.m. single game on Friday March 29, followed by a Saturday doubleheader starting at noon.

Jack Sheehan can be reached at 581-2812 or jpsheehan2@eiu.edu

» FIRST CONTINUED FROM PAGE8

“If there is a runner in scoring position and he pitches you away, ‘boom’ like (Vavra) did, take it the other way,” Schmitz said. “That’s a great feeling of scoring a run. It’s a confidence builder.”

Vavra, who played for Madison Community College his freshman and sophomore years, leads the Panthers in home runs, (2) RBIs (19) and slugging percentage (.442).

In Eastern’s three-game winning streak that began with an 11-7 win at home against Southern Illinois-Carbondale, Vavra hit .417 (5-for-12).

Out of Vavra’s five hits in that three-game stretch, the Menomonie, Wis., native has three doubles.

The streak also saw Vavra drive in six runs, while scoring two runs. He also reached base an additional three times by walking twice and getting hit by a pitch once in the game against the Salukis.

“(Vavra) has been outstanding this year and he and Valach have been carrying the team,” Schmitz said.

Schmitz not only praised Vavra’s hitting, but the coach also had good

things to say about the first baseman’s defense.

Vavra’s athleticism was put on center stage against Southern Illinois-Carbondale.

The Salukis’ third baseman, Cody Daily leadoff the second inning with a single and with his teammate Brock Harding at the plate, Vavra showed off his defensive skill.

Harding, a left-handed hitter, lined a ball, destined to the right field corner, but Vavra dove to his left, soaring toward the first base bag and snagged the ball.

Daily was caught in no man’s land as he immediately took-off first base when Harding made contact with the ball.

Vavra tagged the base, doubling off daily and avoiding a big inning for the Salukis.

He is one of the top defensive players in the Ohio Valley Conference having only made three errors this season.

Aldo Soto can be reached at 581-2812 or asoto2@eiu.edu.


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**Baseball, first baseman**

# First things first

## Vavra's offense, defense provide Panthers with 3-game win streak

By Aldo Soto  
Assistant Sports Editor

Eastern and Illinois State played nine innings, but the outcome was yet to be determined in their game Saturday afternoon.

The Panthers finally broke through in the 10th after the game was tied at two since the sixth inning.

With two runs already in for Eastern, junior Treysen Vavra stepped to the plate with Tyler Schweigert and Dane Sauer taking their leads off second and third base, respectively.

Illinois State's pitcher Will Headen delivered a pitch that was to Vavra's liking, as the first baseman doubled to the outfield, scoring Sauer and Schweigert.

The Panthers led 6-2 and Vavra would later score the final run of the game, giving Eastern its third consecutive win at the time and the first series win of the season.

But the junior's two-run double that put the game out of reach for the Cardinals was not what impressed coach Jim Schmitz the most.

In the third inning, Vavra was at bat facing the Cardinals starter Brad Sorkin, with Caleb Howell and Schweigert standing at second and third base just like in his plate appearance in the 10th, but this time Vavra had to come through with two outs in the inning.

"No matter how you look at that, you can't teach it," Schmitz said about hitting with runners in scoring position.

Vavra lined a base hit to right field, which scored Howell and Schweigert, giving his team a 2-0 advantage. Without that base hit, the Panthers would have been shutout by Sorkin, who pitched into the 10th, before being relieved by Headen.

Schmitz said he and associate coach Ben Wolgamot have stressed to the batters to take what the pitchers are giving them at the plate.

FIRST, page 7



Treysen Vavra

**2013 Stats**  
**(21 games)**

Avg. 279

R- 10

H- 24

HR- 2

RBI- 19

## ST BASE



DOMINIC BAIMA | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Treysen Vavra hit a two-run double in the 10th inning of the Panther's game against Illinois State Saturday, giving his team their third consecutive win.

### BASKETBALL | FINAL GAME

# Illini's press forced turnovers, won game

By Alex McNamee  
Staff Reporter

The Missouri women's basketball team tried a full-court pressure defense in the second half of last Wednesday's second round Women's National Invitation Tournament.

The Tigers tried to isolate and control Eastern senior guard Ta'Kenya Nixon with the pressure, but Nixon handled it well — scoring 15 of her 27 points in the second half.

Monday night, Illinois put a 2-1-2 full-court pressure defense on Eastern for most of the game. The Panthers, including Nixon, dealt with it successfully. Nixon had 14 points in the first half.

In the second half, the Illini adjusted their full-court pressure and held Nixon and her teammates in check. Illinois forced 22 turnovers in the game, but scored 12 of their 18 points off turnovers in the second half.

"We backed up their guards," Illinois head coach Matt Bollant said.

The Illini started their pressure closer to the Eastern inbounds pass, often having a player on Nixon's back before the inbounds pass.

Instead of having their first two defenders at half court, Bollant said they

moved them closer to the three-point line, not allowing Eastern much room to move the ball up the floor without passing.

Bollant said it helped his team have less ground to cover and it showed when Eastern tried its reverse passes across the court.

Eastern head coach Lee Buchanan said his team got lazy with passes in the second half, as they lobbed balls over the Illini's trapping defenders.

After the lob, the ball was in the air for anyone to take and the Illini more often than not, stole it and started a fast break.

"Illinois is so long and athletic they play that little 2-1-2 half-court trap," Buchanan said. "It doesn't take them long to go from one side to the other. You don't see that a lot."

Turnovers were something the Panthers could not afford, especially against the nation's 14th best team in turnover margin this season.

The Panthers committed seven turnovers in a span of 5:56 between taking an eight-point lead with 14:06 to play and the Illini taking a three-point lead with 8:50 left.

In one specific sequence, Illinois' Adrienne GodBold turned the ball

over with 12:31 to play, but Eastern junior forward Taryn Olson turned it over one second later, trying to make a pass to Nixon. In that same second, Nixon committed a foul.

One second later, Illinois' Alexis Smith turned the ball over on an Olson steal. The ball ended up in Eastern junior guard Jordyne Crunk's hands, but she turned the ball over 14 seconds later.

Although the Panthers committed 12 turnovers in the first half, they were not doing in such short periods of time.

Both teams went scoreless for 5:29-straight in the first half, but it was because of missed shots. The Panthers only turned the ball over twice in that sequence, both coming in the final minute of that stretch.

The Panthers' 22 turnovers came close to a season high. They committed 25 turnovers against Sacramento State in December.

Eastern lost and Nixon was held to three points in the second half — both different than the Missouri game.

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DOMINIC BAIMA | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Eastern's Sydney Mitchel, a senior forward, passes the ball to Mariah King, a senior forward, while the University of Illinois' Amber Moore, a junior guard, tries to block the pass Monday during the Women's National Invitational Tournament in Assembly Hall at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The Panthers lost 62-54.